

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-3324

April 6, 2011

Mr. Peter Webster
Chairman
Board of Selectman
PO Box 203
Holderness, NH 03245-0203

Dear Mr. Webster:

I appreciate you contacting me regarding The Northern Pass transmission project.

As you may know there are several steps that need to be taken before The Northern Pass transmission project can begin. The Northern Pass transmission project filed for a Presidential Permit through the Department of Energy (DOE). In addition to the DOE, the project will need to obtain permits from the U.S. Department of Agriculture as well as the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee.

Just recently, the DOE held seven public meetings in local communities to discuss the project and to receive input on the scope of the environmental impact statement. I had one of my staff members attend each of these meetings and I attended the last meeting in Haverhill to personally hear firsthand from my constituents regarding their concerns with this project. The purpose of these meetings was for the DOE to receive input on the proposed project so they can then determine the scope of the environmental impact study and resulting statement that will be required before a decision is made on issuing a permit.

If you have not already done so, I would encourage you to visit the DOE website at <https://secure.netsolhost.com/northernpasseis.us/index.asp> to make an official comment on the project. If you do not have access to the internet you can mail your comments to the following address:

Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20)

U.S. Department of Energy

1000 Independence Ave. SW

Washington, DC 20585

The DOE will be accepting comments up until April 12th. If you have questions or would like more information you may contact Brian Mills at the DOE at (202) 586-8367 or by e-mail at Brian.Mills@hq.doe.gov.

Thank you for expressing your thoughts on this matter, and I will keep your views in mind as this process goes forward. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any other issues you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly".

Kelly A. Ayotte
U. S. Senator

KAA/dsd